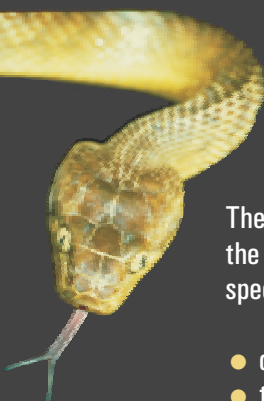


Science, Society, Solutions

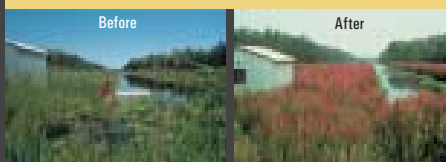
Invasive Species: Threatening Our Economy and Our Biological Heritage



The USGS works with many partners to address the complex and increasing problem of invasive species by

- detecting new invaders
- tracking established invaders
- predicting the spread and impacts of invaders
- researching control and restoration methods
- improving access to information and applications
- fostering scientific cooperation in the United States and around the world

Landscapes



Purple loosestrife, an escaped ornamental plant, is transforming wetlands throughout the continental United States.
Photo: Dan Thompson, FWS Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, New York

Recreation



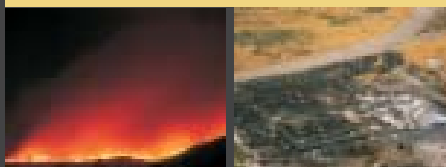
Initially introduced for use in aquariums, hydrilla grows aggressively in the wild and forms thick mats that can interfere with recreational boaters, like this sailor mired on the Potomac River.
Photo: Dick Hammerschlag, USGS.
Insert: Carol DiSalvo, NPS.

Industry



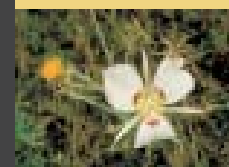
Zebra mussels, introduced to the United States in ballast water, clog industrial water intake pipes.
Photo: Ron Peplowski, Detroit Edison, Monroe Michigan Power Station.
(Hands pic: Don Schloesser, USGS)

Property



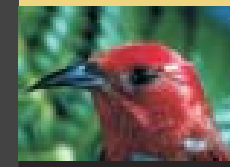
Invasive grasses, including red brome and cheatgrass, fuel fires that destroy property, like this burned ranch in Nevada.
Photo: Todd Esque, USGS (left); BLM (right)

Native Species



Yellow starthistle is taking over vast areas of the West and outcompeting native plants such as the rare mariposa lily in Idaho.
Photo: Mark Lowry, BLM.

Wildlife Health



Introduced mosquitoes transmit invasive avian diseases, which have caused significant declines in Hawaii's native birds.
Photo: © Jack Jeffrey Photography

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